

REMARKS

The applicant respectfully notes that the translation of the specification as filed does not include an abstract, since the WIPO publication includes an English language abstract. It is that abstract which is relied upon as the abstract in this matter.

In the claims, multiple dependencies have been removed by distributing the limitations. Of the new claims, claim 15 has the limitation of claim 4, but depends from claim 2 rather than claim 1. Claim 16 makes the limitation of claim 4 dependent from claim 3 rather than claim 1. Claim 17 divides out a portion of the limitation of claim 5, and claims 18, 20 and 22 makes the first limitation of claim 5 depend from claims 2-4, respectively. Claims 19, 21 and 23 depend from claims 18, 20 and 22 in the way that claim 17 depends from claim 5.

Claims 24-26 depend from claims 19, 21 and 23 in the way that claim 6 depends from claim 17. Claims 27-29 depend from claims 24-26 in the way that claim 7 depends from claim 6. Claims 30-32 depend from claims 27-29 in the way that claim 8 depends from claim 1.

New claim 33 divides out a portion of the limitations previously in claim 11 and depends from claim 11. Claim 34 is a new claim that depends from claim 33 in the way that claim 12 depends from claim 10.

The above claims have also been amended to correspond them more closely to United States claiming practice, namely, by removing reference numerals, and by clarifying antecedent basis issues. In this manner, they should be in condition for allowance. These amendments to the claims are fully supported by the literal translation into English of the specification as filed in Germany, and they do not introduce new subject matter.

The claims as amended are incorporated into the substitute specification.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen L. Grant
Reg. No. 33,390
Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP
1225 W. Market St.
Akron, OH 44313
330-864-5550
Fax 330-864-7986
Email: slgrant@hahnlaw.com
Customer No. 021324